



# OFFICIAL NEWS RELEASE

## MISSISSIPPI FORESTRY COMMISSION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Federal Conservation Reserve Program – Tree Thinning Incentive Program**

*Jackson, Miss.* - The USDA Farm Services Agency has announced a new voluntary Tree Thinning Incentive Program for eligible Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) participants. A signup period for interested CRP participants will be held from May 2nd - May 31st, 2016, at their local Farm Services Agency (FSA) office. CRP participants should contact their local FSA office with any questions regarding the Tree Thinning Incentive Program or eligibility requirements. Click [here](#) to locate the FSA office for your county.

CRP participants that are interested in the Tree Thinning Incentive Program are strongly urged to contact their local Mississippi Forestry Commission (MFC) Service Forester to discuss their forest management and wildlife management objectives. Participants in the CRP program can best achieve their management objectives by developing a specific thinning prescription for their CRP forest acreage and selecting the proper customary forestry practice. Please contact your local MFC District Office for more information. Click [here](#) to locate your local MFC District Office.

The primary purpose of the Tree Thinning Incentive Program is to improve the resource condition by enhancing wildlife habitat and promoting forest health through thinning and implementing a second customary forestry practice. Although the program name is the Tree Thinning Incentive Program, CRP participants will be required to implement an additional customary forestry practice. Authorized customary forestry practices such as prescribed burning, disking, chemical woody and herbaceous plant control and mechanical woody plant control will have payment incentives as well. Therefore, CRP participants will be required to implement at least one of these practices to be eligible for any tree thinning incentive payments.

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